

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 CARACA 02250 091610Z
ACTION SCS-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 CA-01 EB-08 FAA-00 DOTE-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15
SP-02 OC-06 CCO-00 WRDE-00 CG-00 SSO-00 EUR-12
/077 W

-----034767 100710Z /16

R 082105Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1486

UNCLAS CARACAS 2250

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, VE
SUBJ: LOSS OF COMMERCIAL AIRLINER

REF: CARACAS 2174; CARACAS 2120; 10 FAM 521.7

1. THE HS748 (AVRO) OPERATED BY LINEA AEROPPOSTAL VENEZOLANA (LAV) WHICH CRASHED INTO THE SEA ON MARCH 4, 1978 ABOUT 9PM, WAS ON A FLIGHT FROM MAIQUETIA TO CUMANA WITH A CREW OF FOUR AND 43 PASSENGERS. THE AIRCRAFT CRASHED APPROXIMATELY 3 MILES OFF THE COAST FROM AN ESTIMATED ALTITUDE OF 3,000 FEET A FEW MINUTES AFTER TAKE-OFF.

2. MAIQUETIA CONTROL TOWER RECORDINGS INDICATE THE LAST COMMUNICATION FROM THE PILOT TO BE A REPORT THAT THE ARTIFICIAL HORIZON HAD FAILED WITH THE PILOT REQUESTING RETURN AND LANDING CLEARANCE WHICH WERE GRANTED.

3. THE AIRCRAFT LIES AT ABOUT 600 FEET DEPTH. TWENTY-ONE BODIES HAVE BEEN RECOVERED AND SOME VERY FEW PIECES OF THE AIRCRAFT. NO SIGNS OF EXPLOSION OR FIRE HAVE BEEN FOUND ON BODIES OR WRECKAGE.

4. VENEZUELA'S PRESIDENT HAS ORDERED ACCELERATED INVESTIGATION AND HAS ORDERED THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS TO MAKE UNCLASSIFIED

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ALL EFFORTS TO LIFT THE WRECK IN ORDER TO FACILITATE FINDING THE CAUSE OF THE ACCIDENT. INVESTIGATIVE ASSISTANCE BY FAA AND NTSB HAS BEEN REQUESTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AERONAUTICS, AND THE PRESIDENT OF LAV HAS REQUESTED U.S. ASSISTANCE IN LIFTING THE WRECKAGE. A BRITISH INVESTIGATION TEAM REPORTEDLY IS EXPECTED TO ARRIVE TODAY.
VAKY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT, AIRCRAFT ACCIDENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978CARACA02250
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780107-0799
Format: TEL
From: CARACAS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780394/aaaadbrc.tel
Line Count: 62
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 5cd197cb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SCS
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 CARACAS 2174, 78 CARACAS 2120
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3408573
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LOSS OF COMMERCIAL AIRLINER
TAGS: EAIR, VE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5cd197cb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
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EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
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